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# State of Utah
## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
## Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER
*Executive Director*

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*Division Director*

## Inspection Report
## Minerals Regulatory Program
December 11, 2014

Reviewed: WdW

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|---|---|
| **Mine Name**: Cedar Springs | **Permit Number**: M/023/0059 |
| **Operator Name**: Nephi Sandstone | **Inspection Date**: December 9, 2014 |
| **Inspector(s)**: Paul Baker and Wayne Western | **Time**: About 9:30-10:30 AM |
| **Other Participants**: Craig Dansie, Nephi Sandstone | **Mine Status**: Reclaimed |

| Elements of Inspection | Evaluated | Comment | Enforcement |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds | ☒ | ☒ | ☐ |
| 2. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls) | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4. Deleterious Material | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety) | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6. Reclamation | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes) | ☒ | ☒ | ☐ |
| 8. Soils | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 9. Revegetation | ☒ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 10. Other | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

**Permit fee**: Last paid in 2008; $2500 due **Bond Renewal Date:** November 25, 2008
**Bond Amount:** $30,000 in cancelled surety bond

**Purpose of Inspection**
The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate with the operator what additional reclamation work needed to be done. The Division previously inspected the site and determined additional grading and revegetation work were necessary, and our purpose was to look at these deficiencies with the operator.

**Weather:**
Mostly sunny, 30s

**Inspection Summary:**
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds
The surety bond was cancelled effective October 12, 2014. The Division has issued a cessation order and a failure to abate cessation order (FTACO) because the operator failed to replace the surety.

The Division filed a Notice of Agency Action (NOAA) with the Board or Oil, Gas and Mining for the purpose of forfeiting the surety, but because the operator indicated it was willing to complete reclamation, the Division continued the NOAA until the January 2015 hearing to allow the operator additional time.

7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)
Previous inspections identified areas needing additional grading and seeding work. At the bottom of the site there is a pad where one can park. Just above this pad is a slope about 15 feet high and at a slope of about 1.5H:1V (Photo 1). This slope has essentially no vegetation and is eroding badly.

A little farther up the canyon is another slope about 30 feet high (Photo 2) and at a slope of about 1H:1V. Most of this slope is covered with less than a foot of loose material, but there is one portion where the loose material was eroded away revealing bedrock. This slope was previously identified as an area where the Division wanted the operator to do additional grading, but there was no way to know that the slope is basically a rock outcrop. The slope is moderately well vegetated.

Farther up the canyon is an area the operator had pocked but where no vegetation had become established. The Division had recommended re-scarifying this area, but this area also has a thin veneer of loose material over rock outcrop.

There had clearly been a very heavy rainstorm in the area sometime within the past few months. There was evidence of this along the state highway, in the canyon below the mine, and at the mine site itself where there were gullies up to about two feet deep. The erosion on the 30-foot slope mentioned above was apparently caused by this storm. Most of the sediment generated from the erosion was deposited on the pads below the slopes though some almost certainly left the site.

The majority of water coming down the canyon goes through a channel northeast of the pad, and this channel appears to be stable. Water that gathers on the site flows down the 30-foot slope and an old road to the side of this slope. In places this has eroded to bedrock (Photo 3).

Most of the road leading to the site is used for access to areas besides the mine, but about the last 100 yards is only for the mine. It comes to a pad then loops in a separate section of road that heads down the canyon. The pad is well vegetated and needs no additional work, and the portion of the road heading down the canyon has good vegetation cover.

The road on which we drove to get to the site has little vegetation and serves no purpose other than access to the mine. This road needs to be roughened and seeded. Wayne and I tried to describe the concept of extreme roughening, i.e. pocking.

**Conclusions and Recommendations:**

As discussed above, the portion of the access road that only leads to the mine needs to be roughened and seeded. Mr. Dansie was going to try to arrange for this work to be done this week. We did not recommend a specific seed mix but suggested that one of the seed dealers in the area could make good recommendations.

The lower slope—the one described above as being about 15 feet high—needs to be lessened and reseeded.

Although the Division previously recommended that the upper slope be lessened, this is not possible without blasting, something that was not apparent when the Division first evaluated this slope. The slope meets regulatory angle requirements.

We considered options for re-routing water to lessen erosion but could not see a good solution. The erosion we saw is likely unusual.

We told Mr. Dansie that if he would do the additional reclamation work, we would vacate the FTACO. We also said we would re-examine the fine for the cessation order.

**Inspector's Signature** _____

PBB
cc: Nephi Sandstone
Document2

Photo 1

Photo 2

Photo 3